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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY: USSR

SUBJECT: Belief that Andreyev and Shvernik are Zhdanovites

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SUPP. TO

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. It is unlikely that documentary evidence could be obtained that would prove conclusively Andreyev and Shvernik are Zhdanovites. The fact that these men owe their former positions to Zhdanov is well known. [] Zhdanov either made the appointment or the suggestion which led to the appointments.

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2. Zhdanov was the boss of Leningrad and had headed the Moscow Region Party Committee and these are powerful positions in Soviet hierarchy. It was through Zhdanov that Andreyev got his position as head of the collective farm organizations. Immediately after Zhdanov's death, Andreyev was kicked out and is either dead or in complete political obscurity. These men were seen together and worked together; therefore it follows that when the benefactor died his important subordinates would lose their jobs.

3. Shvernik was chairman of the Trade Union's Council and obtained this position through Zhdanov's influence. These men worked together and the contact was frequent while Zhdanov was head of the Moscow Committee. The position held by Shvernik was a relatively unimportant one in Soviet hierarchy, so it is not surprising that he was not removed when Zhdanov passed away. It is significant however that Malenkov removed Shvernik just as soon as he had the power to do so without attracting too much attention. It means that Malenkov is examining all possible sources of opposition and is taking prompt corrective action. Shvernik was competent in his job, therefore his removal was for political reasons. Shvernik has not been closely associated with any other political figure so [] his errors stem from his Zhdanovite background.

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